

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
FISHERIES DIVISION

JOB PROGRESS REPORT  
Research Project Segment

State Montana  
Project No. F-34-R-9 Title Reservoir Investigations  
Job No. III-a Title Life Cycle Studies of Westslope Cutthroat Trout  
Period Covered July 1, 1974 through June 30, 1975

ABSTRACT

Work was continued on re-analysis of fishery data collected from Hungry Horse Creek between the years of 1963 and 1972. The U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Reclamation provided information on land management practices in Hungry Horse Creek drainage and operation of Hungry Horse Reservoir.

DISCUSSION

Field work on investigations into the life cycle of westslope cutthroat trout (Salmo clarkii subsp.) was started fiscal-year 1963 and was completed fiscal-year 1973. Large amounts of data were collected during this ten-year period. Re-analysis of these data was started during this report period.

Primary effort was limited to re-reading scales from spawning and juvenile cutthroat, calculation of body-scale length relationships and spawning run estimates. Reports were reviewed concerning reservoir operation and a history of land management within Hungry Horse Creek drainage.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Work will be continued on the write-up of final job reports. The first report dealing with life cycle information should be completed by mid-year 1976, while the report dealing with relationships between the fish and its environment should be completed about September, 1978.

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Date: April 24, 1975

Waters Referred to: Hungry Horse Creek 08-3580-01  
Hungry Horse Reservoir 08-8860-05